

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims**

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fiber optic cable connection system comprising:
  - a first fiber optic connector with a first end and a second end, the second end mounted to ~~the~~ an end of a fiber optic cable, and the first end including a ferrule within which an optical fiber of the fiber optic cable is mounted;
  - a fiber optic adapter including a first end for receiving the first fiber optic connector, the first end including a sleeve for receiving the ferrule and aligning the optical fiber within the ferrule with a longitudinal axis of the sleeve;
  - the first fiber optic connector mounted within a first threaded body with the fiber optic cable extending through an opening in a distal end of the first threaded body and the ferrule accessible through a proximal end of the first threaded body;
  - the fiber optic adapter mounted within a second threaded body and the second threaded body adapted for mounting to a bulkhead;
  - the second threaded body adapted to engage the proximal end of the first threaded body with the first end of the first connector engaging the first end of the adapter and the ferrule of the connector extending into the sleeve of the adapter;
  - an outer housing threadably mounted about both the first and second threaded bodies when the second threaded body is engaging the proximal end of the first threaded body;
  - and
  - the first and second threaded bodies and the outer housing cooperating to hold the first end of the first connector engaging the first end of the adapter.
2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 1, wherein the first fiber optic connector is a standardized fiber optic connector and the first end of the adapter is adapted to receive the a standardized fiber optic connector.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 2, wherein the first connector is an SC connector and the first end of the adapter is adapted to receive the an SC connector.
4. (ORIGINAL) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 1, wherein the fiber optic adapter further includes a second end for receiving a second fiber optic connector with a ferrule, the second end including a sleeve for receiving the ferrule of the second connector and aligning an optical fiber within the ferrule of the second connector with the optical fiber within the ferrule of the first connector.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 4, wherein the second fiber optic connector is a standardized fiber optic connector and the second end of the adapter is adapted to receive the a standardized fiber optic connector.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 5, wherein the second connector is an SC connector and the second end of the adapter is adapted to receive the an SC connector.
7. (ORIGINAL) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 1, wherein a first o-ring is positioned about the fiber optic cable adjacent the distal end of the first threaded body, a second o-ring is positioned about the second threaded body, and the outer housing engages both o-rings to environmentally seal the first ends of the first connector and the adapter.
8. (ORIGINAL) The fiber optic cable connection system of claim 1, wherein the second threaded body is fixedly mounted to a bulkhead and the threaded bodies and the outer housing cooperate to transfer tension from the cable to the bulkhead without disengaging the first end of the first connector from the first end of the adapter.
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A fiber optic cable connection system comprising:  
a cable end assembly mounted to the an end of a first fiber optic cable and  
~~including a standard fiber optic connector within the cable end assembly, the cable end assembly~~

including a standard fiber optic connector including a ferrule and an optical fiber of the cable terminated at the ferrule;

a bulkhead assembly adapted for mounting to a bulkhead including a standard fiber optic connector ~~within the bulkhead assembly~~, the connector of the bulkhead assembly mounted to ~~the~~ an end of a second fiber optic cable and including a ferrule, and an optical fiber of the cable terminated at the ferrule;

an adapter assembly including a fiber optic adapter with a first end and a second end for receiving fiber optic connectors with the ferrules of the connectors received within a sleeve and axially aligned with each other;

wherein the cable end assembly is received by the adapter assembly such that the connector of the cable end assembly is received within the first end of the adapter and the cable end assembly and the adapter assembly cooperate to form a first sealed connection to withstand weather; and,

wherein the adapter assembly is received by the bulkhead assembly such that the connector of the bulkhead assembly is received within the second end of the adapter and the optical fiber of the first cable is aligned with the optical fiber of the second cable, and the bulkhead assembly and the adapter assembly cooperate to form a second sealed connection to withstand weather.